

Serial No.: 08/899,183  
Filed: July 23, 1997

Prior to the first sentence of the application following the title, please enter the following paragraph:

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This application claims the benefit of provisional application Serial No. 60/178,139, filed January 25, 2000.

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**ABSTRACT**

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Methods for identifying and locating alterations in a nucleic acid having a known sequence are provided. The methods involve measuring the melting temperature of probe nucleic acids hybridized to a target nucleic acid. The methods take advantage of the differential dissociation temperatures of a probe from a target resulting from mismatches at different locations along the region of the target to which the probe hybridizes.

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